Jim Sowinski Indiana University Cyclotron Facility

Since receiving my Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin in 1984 I have been a Research Scientist at the Indiana University Cyclotron Facility. During much of that time we were an international user facility. In 1994-5 I spent a year working on the HERMES experiment at DESY. My association with BNL began in 1997 when our group joined STAR and has included running with E948 at the AGS in 1998. I was installation coordinator for the ~\$7M endcap electromagnetic calorimeter addition to STAR and have been a member of the STAR Council since 2002. In 2003 I lived onsite at BNL for 6 months and continue to spend a large amount of time at the lab. Last year I was elected to a 1 year term on the User's Executive Committee and am happy to once again offer my experience on the Committee and as a long time user of nuclear physics laboratories to serve the Brookhaven user community.

The budget for RHIC was clearly the major issue the Executive Committee dealt with in the past year. The response of the User's to the letter writing campaigns organized by the Executive Committee seemed to have played a large part in improved funding for RHIC in the proposed budgets. It is clear that such efforts will need to continue to see that those budgets are passed into law, and increases continue in the coming years. Other major issues in the upcoming years will center on the long term future of the RHIC/AGS complex, its security and safety. In addition to lobbying in Washington on budgetary issues, it will be crucial to improve communication between lab management and the users on these crucial issues. This will be particularly important with the current rapid changes in management occurring at the lab. A better dialogue between the users and management is essential to the future of RHIC and the AGS, not only to maintain or improve budgets but to make sure that the inevitable safety and security upgrades are value-added and not just paper-added efforts. If elected I will work to improve communication and to keep RHIC/AGS a place where we can get our research done while working in a safe and secure environment.